

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 MADRID 01388 242212Z

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 /029 W

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R 231818Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4710

UNCLAS MADRID 1388

USIA WASHDC

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: SPON

SUBJECT: EMBASSY USE OF AP, UPI, OR REUTERS WIRE SERVICES

REF: STATE 039280

1. EMBASSY SUBSCRIBES TO UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL ON REGULAR COMMERCIAL CONTRACT BASIS THROUGH THE SEMI-OFFICIAL SPANISH NEWS AGENCY EFE, UNDER SPANISH PRESS LAW, EFE IS ONLY NEWS AGENCY THAT CAN DISTRIBUTE FOREIGN NEWS TO MEDIA FOR PUBLICATION ALTHOUGH OTHER AGENCIES CAN BE USED FOR SUPPLEMENTAL PURPOSES.
 2. UNTIL RECENTLY EFE SERVED AS THE LEASING AGENCY FOR UPI BUT NOT OTHER AGENCIES. THERE FORE WAS RELATIVELY SIMPLE PROCEDURE CONTRACT TO CONTRACT OTHERS. AP BUREAU CHIEF RECENTLY INFORMED EMBASSY PRESS OFFICER THAT EFE IS NOW SERVING AS LEASING AGENCY FOR AP AS WELL THEREBY SIMPLIFYING CONTRACING PROCEDURE. HIGH COST, HOWEVER, BARS EMBASSY FROM SUBSRCRIBING TO SECOND SERVICE.
 3. UPI MONTHLY COST TOTALS \$264.34 AND, EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS AP IS CONSIDERABLY MORE EXPENSIVE SINCE FILLS EMBASSY'S MONITORING NEEDS, PLANS ARE TO CONTINUE WITH UPI EVEN THOUGH AP NOW AVAILABLE. POTENTIAL PRESS RELATIONS PROBLEM WOULD ARISE HERE IF EMBASSY SWITCHED SERVICES NOW FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN SP'S AVAILABILITY.
- STABLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION MEDIA, PUBLICATIONS PROCUREMENT, NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MADRID01388
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760070-0328
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760223/aaaaauhe.tel
Line Count: 52
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 39280
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: castelsl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by castelsl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EMBASSY USE OF AP, UPI, OR REUTERS WIRE SERVICES
TAGS: SOPN, ASUP, SP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006